

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments to the application and the following remarks.

Regarding the Claims

Claims 1-23 have been cancelled, and new Claims 24-37 have been added. No new subject matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-12, and 14-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-21 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,420,474. Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims present patentably distinct subject matter, thereby traversing the double patenting rejection under Section 101.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. New Claims 24-37 have been added to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The antecedent basis issue has been remedied.

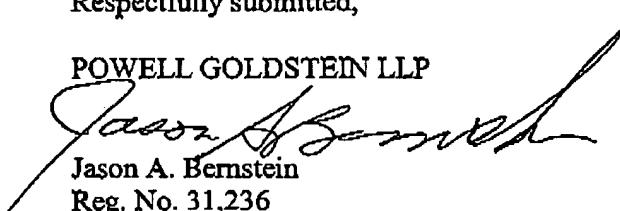
Independent Claims 24, 33-35 as added are believed to be in condition for allowance, and dependent Claims 25-32 and 36-37 are thereby also in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant submits that the new claims overcome the Examiner's rejections and are in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests the same.

Some amendments and remarks contained in this document, or in other documents filed or to be filed with the US Patent Office in this case or related cases, may in the future be deemed, by a court of law or government agency of competent jurisdiction, to be narrowing amendments and/or related to patentability. Accordingly, the public is hereby advised that the applicant: (a) intends to relinquish only that claim coverage which is clearly, explicitly, precisely and unequivocally stated to be relinquished; (b) does not intend to relinquish any other claim coverage; (c) reserves the right to assert that any such amendments and/or remarks are not narrowing and/or are not related to patentability; and (d) intends to fully assert the full range of equivalents, under the Doctrine of Equivalents and otherwise, which are presently known or which may become known in the future, for each and every element of each and every claim, and for each and every claim.

Should the Examiner have questions or suggestions which will put this application in line for allowance, he or she is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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